Charlotte Mason's House of Education,
Scale How, Ambleside, UK, 2009

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Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada
Conseil de recherches en sciences humaines du Canada

Misses I. Gilbert, G. Flewker, E. Pearson, M. Fletcher. Class 3: Misses M. Barrett and C. Wallace. There is a distinct advance in the quality of the lecture work in the best of these books over that of the previous terms. No subject has been, on the whole, so well understood and expressed as the "Pitcher Plants," from Professor Geddes' *Chapters in Modern Botany*. Many of the original notes in the "Diaries" are very interesting; Miss Gilbert deserves commendation in this respect. I have not before had a book containing so many excellent sketches, of both plants and insects, as Miss Rankin's, and the drawing of the whole of the first-class is very good." (Signed) Herbert D. Geldart.

Parents' Review School.—Will those parents who would like to have their children's examination papers returned kindly send stamps for postage.

We recommend parents to let their children join the P.N.E.U. Natural History Club. Write to Miss Paterson for particulars. Children who belong to the Club need not take the *Nature* work in the P.R.S. programmes.

Mothers' Educational Course.—We take this opportunity of answering several enquiries. We are anxious to make the working of this course as easy as possible to mothers. The only binding condition is that, while the Examinations are in progress, *no* text-book must be used for any purpose whatever. The work of half-a-year may extend over a whole year. The "Three Years' Course" may occupy six years, and an examination may extend over a month instead of over the prescribed week. But we earnestly wish that all mothers who undertake the reading should, anyway, try the examinations. The reading alone is by no means so profitable as study tested by examinations.

Aunt Mai's Budget.—This most dainty and charming of all the children's Annuals is so especially "our work." that we notice it here. We hope no mother will fail to present her little folks with this prettiest of New Year's gifts. As might be expected under the editorship of the children's dear "Aunt Mai" (by the way, do our readers know that "mai" is, among the Hindoos, a familiar and endearing epithet for woman, having the force of mother), the illustrations, the cover, every detail of type, size and arrangement of page, are exceedingly graceful and artistic. Miss Mitchell's illustrations are simply fascinating, and the child who loves the pictures in *The Two Roses*, *Little Cock Sparrow*, *The Banished Dwarfs*, will receive real art culture as well as delight. It will be a great delight to the little people to have, not only their stories, but their cookery lessons, "garden" talks, drills, various kinds of work, all in a cherished volume of their own, instead of hidden away in "mother's big book." The press is enthusiastic about our Child Annual.

OPINIONS OF THE PRESS.

The Times. . . .—The stories and fairy tales are pleasant; the illustrations are graceful and clever, and we should hope it may hold its own. . . . Useful elementary lessons in gardening and cookery; and early education in the latter science commands our warmest sympathies.

Southport Guardian.—Miss Mitchell's work is finer in touch, more delicate in line than that of Gordon Browne, but she shares with him the gift of conferring human attributes upon beast and bird and flower. . . . The stories, which contain much quaint humour and simple pathos, are in every respect equal to the pictures. Many a parent, wearied by the endless question of "What shall I do?" will bless Aunt Mai's Annual.

P.N.E.U. NOTES.

Chairman of Committee: Dr. A. T. Schofield. *Vice-Chairman:* Algernon C. P. Coote, Esq., M.A. *Hon. Org. Sec.:* Henry Perrin, Esq. *Secretary:* Miss Paterson. Pamphlets giving full particulars of the work of the Union, and the *Parents' Review* (6*d.* monthly), the organ of the Society, may be obtained from the Secretary, 28, Victoria Street, S.W., to whom all subscriptions and communications should be sent.

CENTRAL (BELGRAVIA) BRANCH.—*Sec.:* Miss Paterson, 28, Victoria Street, S.W. A meeting was announced for January 18th, when a lecture was to be delivered by Mr. T. G. Rooper, H.M.I., and on February 22nd, at five, Dr. Francis Warner will lecture on "A Study of Children," at 2, Carlos Place, Grosvenor Square (by the kindness of Mrs. Dent). A course of training lessons on "Botany," by Miss Shackleton, is arranged. Particulars from the Secretary.

HAMPSTEAD BRANCH.—*Hon. Sec.:* Mrs. C. Herbert-Smith, The Retreat, North End, Hampstead. On December 12th, a meeting was held at Twyford House, by kind permission of the Misses Locket, when a lecture illustrated by lantern slides, was delivered by Mr. Edward Robins, on "Healthy Homes," Dr. Symons in the chair. A discussion followed, in which Mr. Woodhouse, Miss Young, Mr. Edward Bell, Mr Heskett-Smith and others took part. The next meeting is fixed for Jan. 30th, at Holly Hill, by kind permission of Mrs. Simmons, when a paper will be read by Miss Aitken, on "The Criticism which Teachers desire." The subject of the February meeting will be "Religious Instruction," by Miss Agnes Mason.

HYDE PARK AND BAYSWATER BRANCH.—*Hon. Sec.:* Mrs. E. L. Franklin, 9, Pembridge Gardens, W. On December 18th Miss Wells read a paper on the "Early Training of Children." Miss Franks in the chair. The discussion afterwards was very lively, and turned principally on the question of *specialization*. On January 30th Miss Mason was announced to speak on P.N.E.U. principles. Feb. 20th Miss Helen Webb, M.B., will read a paper, at 23, Oxford Square (by kind permission of Mrs. Spielmann), on the "Hygiene of Needlework," Mrs. Howard Glover in the chair. Tea and coffee at 4.30.

The following courses have been arranged:—Lessons to children in brushwork and drawing, on Fridays, 4 to 5. Fee, £1 1 per course. Ditto to adults, on Thursdays, 2.30 to 3.30. Fee, £1 1 per course. Lectures to mothers, by Miss Helen Webb, M.B., commencing on Feb. 12th, 4.30, on "Physiological Psychology," or, "Where Mind and Body meet," treating of such subjects as memory, attention, habit, &c. Fee, 25*s.* per course. These courses are held at 9, Pembridge Gardens, and are open to *all* members of the union and their friends. Further particulars from Hon. Secretary.

Miss Agnes Mason has, by request, consented to give a course of eight lectures in Kensington this month, on "How to give Religious Instruction to Children." The class will be held at No. 3, Argyle Road, by kind permission of Miss I'Anson, and will be limited in number. Particulars may be had on application to Mrs. Whitaker Thompson, 24, Argyle Road. Fee for the course, one guinea.

STREATHAM BRANCH.—*Hon. Sec:* Mrs. Strode, Bankside, Leigham-court Road, S.W.—During the Christmas holidays, the following lectures have been given in the National Schools, Mitcham Lane, Streatham, (by permission). January 3rd, "The Action of Water upon Land." By Cecil Carus-Wilson, Esq., F.R.G.S., Oxford University Extension Lecturer. (Lime-light illustrations). January 8th, "An Evening with the Telescope." By Sir Robert Ball, F.R.S., Lowndean Professor of Astronomy and Geometry at Cambridge. (Lime-light illustrations). January 10th.—Physiology. "Travels in the Interior." By A. T. Schofield, Esq., M.D., Lecturer for the National Health Society. (Diagrams and illustrations). January 15th, "Practical Electricity" By Henry Edmunds, Esq., M.I.E.E. (Illustrated by experiments). January 17th —"Automata and Mechanical Toys." By Conrad W. Cooke, Esq. (Lime-light illustrations).

A Class for modelling in clay, is held at Mrs. Brooke's, 13, Kirkstall Road, (near Streatham Hill station), on Thursdays, from 3 to 4.30. Teacher, Miss L. Edwards, (certificated, South Kensington) Fee for twelve lessons, one guinea, or 15*s.* each for members of the same family.

WOODFORD AND WANSTEAD BRANCH.—*Hon. Sec.:* Mrs. Pedley, Grove Cottage, Wanstead. In December there was a lecture by Dr. Wilson, of Leytonstone, and in January, a Christmas Course of Science lectures, for children, with Mr. C. Carus-Wilson as lecturer. His splendid set of lantern views and his clear and interesting way of explaining the processes of nature delighted his young audience. "The making and unmaking of the land" is no longer a mere title to them, but they have now a distinct understanding of the gradual but sure movements by which the formation and decay of the earth's crust is ever going on around them.

CLAPHAM AND WANDSWORTH BRANCH—*Hon. Sec.:* Miss Beveridge, 13. Cedars Road, Clapham Common. The first Meeting of the Committee was held on January 7th, at 8 p.m., at Windmill House, Clapham Common, by kind permission of Mrs. Duke. The Rector of Clapham was in the chair. It was resolved that, besides the monthly meetings for the delivery of addresses, a Reading Circle should meet on the evening of the first Monday in each month, when an educational book should be read and discussed. The first book selected is "Home Education," by Miss Charlotte Mason. Further notice will be issued to members. A sub-committee was appointed for the transaction of minor business details There are already 32 members in this branch.

HIGHGATE AND CROUCH END.—*Hon. Sec.* (pro tem.): Dr. G. Handcock, 2, Christchurch Road, Crouch End. A meeting, to inaugurate this branch, was announced for January 22nd, when an address was to be given by Mrs. Steinthal.

READING BRANCH.—*Hon. Sec.:* Mr. William Salmon, 56, London Street.

SOUTHDOWN BRANCH.—

Brighton Centre.—Hon. Sec.: Mrs. William Borrer, Pakyns Manor, Hurstpierpoint.

Eastbourne Centre —Hon. Sec.: Mrs. G. F. Butt, Ingleside, Selwyn Road.

Hastings and S. Leonards Centre.—Hon. Sec.: Mrs. E. Venables, S. Bernard's Lodge. On January 9th and 10th very interesting lectures were given, to young people, by Cecil Carus-Wilson, Esq., F.R.G S., Oxford Extension Lecturer, etc. 1. "The Making of the Land;" 2. "The Unmaking of the Land," in S. Peter's Church House. January 17th, The Hon. and Rev. E. Lyttelton. Subject: "Parents and Children." January 23rd, Mrs. Francis Steinthal. February. No meeting. March. Rev. E. B. Ottley, Vicar of Eastbourne, "The Religious Training of Children."

SHEFFIELD BRANCH.—*Hon. Secs.:* Mrs. Newton Coombe, Brocco Band, Sheffield, and Miss Walmsley, the High School. A large meeting of members and friends of the Union, was held at the Royal Grammar School, by the kind invitation of the Head Master, when the Rev. H. Russell Wakefield, of St. Mary's, Bryanston Square, London, gave a most interesting address on "The place of the Parent in the Educational System." The lecturer, in an able manner, placed before his audience a summary of the results which might be obtained from a right training by a careful parent, and at the same time contrasted these results with those which unhappily followed from the neglect of such training. He pleaded for a closer bond of sympathy between parent and teacher, which he believed would cause a better appreciation of the child's abilities, because the parent generally knew an entirely different side of his child's character from that known by his teacher.

LEEDS BRANCH.—*Hon. Sec.:* Mrs. Arthur Smithells, 4, St. Chad's Gardens, Far Headingley. The following meetings have been arranged for this year: January—Mrs. Miall on "The Teaching of a Language." February 5th—Mrs. Creighton on "The value of Hardness in Education." March—Mr. T. G. Rooper. Miss Simpson will also give a series of addresses on "How to Teach Natural History to Children," fortnightly during Lent. Fee for the course of four lectures, 3*s.* 6*d.*

CARDIFF BRANCH.—*Hon. Sec.:* Mrs. Greener, 1, Clare Street, Riverside.

SCARBOROUGH BRANCH.—*Hon. Sec.*—Mrs. G. Rowntree, 14, Valley Bridge. On December 11th, a paper was read before the Teachers' Guild and the P.N.E.U., by H. Hallgate, Esq., of Whitby. The subject was "Glimpses at Secondary Education." Mr. Hallgate has given an immense amount of time and study to the subject, and his information is gathered from all sides of the question. The meeting was small, but those who were present felt that a difficult and many-sided subject had been made really interesting by the masterly way in which it was treated, and by a review of the history of legislation with regard to education.

SOUTHPORT BRANCH.—*Hon. Sec.:* Mrs. James Dixon, 8, Preston Road.

BROUGHTY FERRY BRANCH.—*Hon. Sec.:* Mrs. Don, The Lodge, Broughty Ferry, N.B.

DUNFERMLINE BRANCH.—*Hon. Sec.:* (pro tem.): Henry Beveridge, Esq., Pitreavie, Dunfermline, N.B.

EDINBURGH.—*Hon. Sec.:* (pro tem.): Mrs. Whyte, St. George's Free Church.

ABERDEEN.—*Hon. Sec.* (pro tem.): Mrs. Lawson, 43, Hamilton Place. A Drawing-room meeting was held at the house of Dr. W. H Williamson, 26th November, 1894, under the presidency of Rev. Dr. Dawson, a leading educationalist, and ex-chairman of the Aberdeen School Board. At this meeting it was decided to form a branch in Aberdeen, and the following Executive Committee was duly elected:—Professor Scorgie, member of School Board; Miss Ward, B.A., Head Mistress Girls' High School; Mr. H. F. Morland Simpson, Rector Grammar School; Miss J. Knowles, Kindergarten Teacher; Mrs. W. Lawson; Mrs. A. Mackay. The other officials have not yet been selected, but it is the intention of the Committee to hold a public meeting at the end of January, when they hope to fill up the posts of President, Vice-presidents, etc., with suitable workers. There is a promised membership of between 30 and 40 already, and this number it is hoped will be augmented at the public meeting. The P.N.E.U. did not receive a cordial welcome from the local Press, which indeed gave it a rather flattering amount of space in both the daily and evening papers. The articles were not written in a serious strain, but seemed to treat the matter as a huge joke, and the scheme was treated as a *fad*, rather than the serious undertaking that the P.N.E.U. have entered upon with such a sense of responsibility. The writer of the articles evidently wrote in ignorance, so must be excused.

It is with deep sorrow that we record the death, on Christmas Eve, 1894, of FRANCES M. BUSS, founder and first headmistress of the North London Collegiate School for Girls, Vice-President of the P.N.E.U., and for 50 years a pioneer in the cause of Educational Reform.

Hon. Local Secs. are requested to send to the undersigned, without delay, reports of all matters of interest connected with their branches, written on one side of the paper only, also 30 copies of any prospectuses or other papers they may print.

HENRY PERRIN, HON. ORG. SEC.,
8, CARLTON HILL,
LONDON, N.W.

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